

ADR Practitioners Lunchtime Webinar Series

May 22, 2012 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Registration Information

Space is limited. Reserve your Webinar seat at

<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/507603566>

Topic: Mediating Race, Culture and Ethnicity: An Identity-Based Approach

In America, many people are uncomfortable talking about issues of race, culture and ethnicity. Parties in a dispute who participate in mediation are no exception. Furthermore, mediators may not see the need to address these matters because they don't understand them to be central to the dispute or because they are also uncomfortable. This Webinar will address why identity encompassing race, culture, ethnicity and other factors is a central component of every dispute and therefore every dispute resolution process. This session will address how mediators can effectively and responsibly bring identity into the mediation process.

In this interactive discussion, Anna introduces an identity based approach to assessing and addressing identity in the mediation context. Participants will learn to incorporate a process that allows mediators to connect with their clients on an individual basis while acknowledging the reality of social constructions about identity. Rather than ignore what we are uncomfortable with, this identity based approach to mediation calls for acknowledging bias, communicating about differences and helping others engage in honest yet respectful dialogue. Log in to learn more about this identity based approach and how this model can be adopted for global use.

Presenter: Anna Spain, J.D.

Anna Spain is an Associate Professor at the University of Colorado Law School who has over 17 years of mediation experience. She teaches, writes and practices in the fields of mediation, international dispute resolution and identity based conflict. She was previously an Attorney-Adviser at the U.S. Department of State and served on the Board of Mediators Beyond Borders. Anna has a J.D. from Harvard Law School and is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Brought to you by the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO)

The purpose of the series is to bring topics of interest to Maryland ADR practitioners. Each quarter, ADR practitioners will be able to participate in a 60 minute presentation from the comfort of their telephone and computer. **Watch** for the upcoming webinars.

Feel free to bring your lunch!